



A Family Learning Program

Written Testimony of Silvia Vallejo
Parent, New London Even Start Program
Appropriations Committee
February 16, 2016

Dear members of the Appropriations Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. My name is Silvia Vallejo and I am a former parent of the New London Even Start Program.

As a graduate parent of the program, my family and I benefited from the program in many areas. My husband and I completed our high school diploma, learned English and throughout this process we also had childcare for our children. In the program we learned how to be better parents, partners, learned the importance of reading a book to our children, the importance of a healthy snack, how to guide them in the early stages, learned about development, learned different techniques and shared many experiences with parents of different cultures. In the Even Start program I obtained many tools that have helped me and have provided me the opportunity to help friends and others in the community which will help generations to come.

I thank the program for all the benefits I received and hope this door will continue to be open to continue to bless the families who are currently enrolled and those to come with necessity seeking an education.